

PROCEEDINGS OF THE CONVENTION

OF

FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS

HELD AT THE

CITY OF WINNIPEG, PROVINCE OF MANITOBA.

ALSO THE

REPORT OF THE ORGANIZATION

OF THE

Most Worshipful the Grand Lodge of Manitoba.

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5875

PROCEEDINGS OF THE CONVENTION  
OF  
FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS

HELD AT THE

**CITY OF WINNIPEG, PROVINCE OF MANITOBA,**

*Wednesday, 12th day of May, A. L. 5875.*

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At a convention of Delegates from the Lodges of Free and Accepted Masons of the Province of Manitoba, held at the Masonic Hall, Winnipeg, on Wednesday, the 12th day of May, A. L. 5875 in conformity with the following circular, to wit:

(CIRCULAR.)

*To the Worshipful Masters, Past Masters, Wardens, Officers and other Brethren of the several Lodges of A. F. and A. M., in the Province of Manitoba.*

Brethren, at an influential meeting of Brethren hailing from the different constitutionally chartered Lodges of the Province, held in the City of Winnipeg, on the 28th day of April, A. L. 5875, it was after mature deliberation unanimously resolved that a circular be forwarded to all the Lodges in this Province, requesting them to be duly represented at a convention to be held in the Masonic Hall, in the City of Winnipeg, on Wednesday, the 12th day of May, 5875, at three o'clock p.m. for the purpose of taking into consideration the present state of Masonry in this Province, and to proceed, if decided, to the formation of Grand Lodge for the Province of Manitoba.

Therefore, we, the undersigned Free Masons in good standing, having been deputed by said meeting, do hereby request all the Lodges in this Province to be duly and constitutionally represented at the convention aforesaid if practicable by *all* their Masters, Past Masters, and Wardens for the important object aforementioned. (Signed,)

W. C. CLARKE, P.M. Prince Rupert's Lodge, No. 240, G. R. C., P. G. Chap. G. L. of Que.

W. N. KENNEDY, P.M., Prince Rupert's Lodge, No. 240, P.D.D.G.M.

JOHN KENNEDY, W.M., Prince Rupert's Lodge, No. 240, P.G., Sword Bearer.

GILBERT McMICKEN, S.W., Prince Rupert's Lodge, No. 240.

S. L. BEDSON, W.M., Lisgar Lodge, No. 244, G.R.C.

THOS. SINCLAIR, J.W., Lisgar Lodge, No. 244, G.R.C.

JAMES HENDERSON, P.M., Ancient Landmark Lodge, No. 288, G.R.C.

JOHN H. BELL, W.M., Ancient Landmark Lodge, No. 288.

J. D. O'MEARA, S.W., Ancient Landmark Lodge, No. 288.

JOHN J. JOHNSTON, J.W., Ancient Landmark Lodge, No. 288.

Winnipeg, 28th April, 5875.

The convention being assembled, it was moved by W. Bro. J. H. Bell, seconded by R. W. Bro. W. N. Kennedy,

That R. W. Bro. Geo. Black, P.M., D.D.G.M., Lisgar Lodge, No. 244, R.C., Mapleton, do act as chairman of this convention. Carried unanimously.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. W. C. Clarke, P.M. P.G. Chap., seconded by W. Bro. Jas. Henderson, P.M.

That W. Bro. John H. Bell, W.M., of Ancient Landmark, No. 288, G.R.C., Winnipeg, do act as Secretary of this convention. Carried unanimously.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. W. C. Clarke, seconded by V. W. Bro. John Kennedy,

That Bro. Gilbert McMicken, S. W., of Prince Rupert's Lodge, No. 240, G. R. C., Bro. James Mahoney, J. W., Prince Rupert's Lodge, No. 240, R. C. and W. Bro. James Henderson, P. M., of Ancient Landmark Lodge, No. 288, G. R. C., be appointed a committee on Credentials, and said committee to proceed and examine the credentials of the Brethren present. Carried unanimously.

The committee on Credentials having proceeded with their duties, subsequently reported the following Lodges duly represented, viz:

Prince Rupert's	No. 240, R.C.,	Winnipeg.
Lisgar	No. 244, R. C.	Brookside.
Ancient Landmark	No. 288, R. C.	Winnipeg.

Which report was on motion received and adopted by the Convention.

A number of Master Masons hailing from different Lodges being in attendance, the R. W. Chairman was pleased to grant permission for their entrance into the Convention.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. W. C. Clarke seconded by R. W. Bro. Wm. N. Kennedy, that the Rules and Regulations for conducting public business contained in the Book of Constitutions of the Grand Lodge of England, *Mutatis Mutandis*, be the Rules and Regulations governing this Convention.

Carried unanimously.

R. W. Bro. Rev. Dr. Clarke opened the Convention with solemn prayer.

On motion it was agreed that each Lodge represented at this Convention be entitled to three votes and each Past Master present as such to one vote.

Several Brethren having addressed the Convention upon the state of Free Masonry in this Province.

It was upon motion resolved unanimously: That R. W. Bros. W. C. Clarke, W. N. Kennedy and W. Bro. John H. Bell, be a committee to prepare resolutions for the adoption of this Convention.

The Convention then adjourned for fifteen minutes.

The Convention resumed its sitting at 4.30 p.m.

R. W. Bro. Geo. Black, presiding.

W. Bro. John H. Bell, on behalf of the committee to prepare resolutions for the adoption of the Convention, submitted the following Preamble and Resolutions, to wit:

#### PREAMBLE.

That whereas: pursuant to the provisions of the British North America Act, Manitoba has been formed a separate and distinct province and as such is legally recognized as one of the confederated provinces of the Dominion of Canada.

And whereas, there is no Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. existing in, or claiming jurisdiction over said province.

And whereas, there are three constitutionally chartered Lodges in active existence therein.

And whereas said Lodges are here duly and constitutionally represented as Lodges.

And whereas, this Convention is of opinion that the harmony, peace and highest interests of Masonry in the Province of Manitoba, require that a Grand Lodge be formed in and for said province and on the following conditions:

That the constitution of the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Canada be adopted, *Mutatis Mutandis* with the following amendment:

That all bearing upon the office of District Deputy Grand Master be struck out.

And that this Convention in the exercise of its inherent rights and constitutional usage and acting under and by the instructions of their respective Lodges.

## RESOLUTIONS.

1st. *Resolved.* That a Grand Lodge be and is hereby declared duly established on the constitution just named.

2nd. *Resolved.* That the title of the Grand Lodge shall be, "THE MOST WORSHIPFUL THE GRAND LODGE OF MANITOBA, ANCIENT FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS."

3rd. *Resolved.* That the said Grand Lodge shall have, hold and exercise for ever full and sovereign jurisdiction in and over said province.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. W. C. Clarke, seconded by R. W. Bro. Wm. N. Kennedy, that the Report of the committee on Resolutions just read, be received and adopted by this Convention. Carried unanimously.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. W. C. Clarke, seconded by R. W. Bro. W. N. Kennedy,

That we, the Representatives of the three Warranted Lodges, being all the Lodges in this Province, in Convention assembled, Resolve, that "the Most Worshipful the Grand Lodge of Manitoba, A. F. & A. M.," be and is hereby formed upon the Ancient charges and constitution of Masonry. Carried unanimously.

R. W. Bro. Black having vacated the chair, W. Bro. James Henderson, Senior P. M., was unanimously called thereto.

Upon motion, the thanks of the Convention were tendered to R. W. Bro. Black, for the able manner in which he discharged the duties of chairman of the Convention.

It was moved by V. W. Bro. John Kennedy, seconded by Bro. Gilbert McMicken,

That in severing our connection from the Grand Lodge of Canada, we desire to express our most profound gratitude to that venerable body for the kind consideration and attention they have always displayed towards us, both as Lodges and individually, and we most ar-

dently desire that the same parental feeling may always be entertained towards us by our mother Grand Lodge: our connection with which we will remember with the greatest pride and affection. Carried unanimously.

Convention then adjourned for ten minutes. The convention resumed its sitting at 5.40 P. M. W. Bro. Jas. Henderson, Senior P.M., presiding, and W. Bro. J. H. Bell, Secretary.

The minutes of the convention were then read and unanimously confirmed.

It was then moved by V. W. Bro. John Kennedy, seconded by V. W. Bro. H. T. Champion,

That the Rules and Regulations of the Grand Lodge of Canada having been adopted *mutatis mutandis*. The convention proceed at once to the election of Grand Lodge Officers—to hold office until their successors in office be regularly elected and installed, and that the W. chairman do appoint scrutineers to examine the ballot. Carried unanimously.

The W. Chairman then appointed R. W. Bro. W. N. Kennedy and V. W. Bro. H. T. Champion as scrutineers.

The election was then proceeded with, and the following brethren were declared duly elected, viz:

M. W. Bro. Rev. Dr. W. C. Clarke, P.M., P.G. Chap., Winnipeg, Grand Master.

R. W. Bro. Hon. W. N. Kennedy, P.D.D.G.M., Winnipeg, Deputy Grand Master.

R. W. Bro. Jas. Henderson, P.M., Grand Senior Warden.

R. W. Bro. S. L. Bedson, W.M., Stone Fort, Grand Junior Warden.

R. W. Bro. Rev. Canon O'Meara, M.A., St. John's College, Chaplain.

R. W. Bro Henry T. Champion, P G S., Winnipeg,  
Grand Registrar.

R. W. Bro. John Kennedy P.G.S.B., W.M., Winni-  
peg, Grand Treasurer.

R. W. Bro. John H. Bell, W.M., Winnipeg, Grand  
Secretary.

Bro. Thos. H. Barton, Winnipeg, Grand Tyler.

The balloting having been concluded,

R. W. Bro. Jas. Henderson, Presiding.

R. W. Bro. W. N. Kennedy, Acting S.W.

R. W. Bro. S. L. Bedson, Acting J.W.

R. W. Bro. John H. Bell, Acting Secretary.

R. W. Bro. James Mahoney, Acting I.G.

Bro. Thos. H. Barton, Acting Tyler.

The M. W. Brother W. C. Clarke, Grand Master,  
elect was duly presented by R. W. Bro. Geo. Black and  
R. W. Bro. H. T. Champion to R. W. Bro. Jas. Hender-  
son, Senior P.M., presiding for installation.

R. W. Bro. Henderson, then proceeded to install  
and invest the M. W. Bro. Clarke, Grand Master, elect  
in due and ancient form, after which the Grand Master  
was formally seated on the throne, and was proclaimed  
Grand Master in due and ancient form from the E. W.  
and S.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. Bell, seconded by R.  
W. Bro. Champion,

That R. W. Bro Geo. Black, D.D.G.M., of this Pro-  
vince have the rank and title of P.G.M., of this Grand  
Lodge of Manitoba. Carried unanimously.

The M.W., the Grand Master then proceeded to in-  
vest and install the several other Grand Officers elect,  
who were also proclaimed in due and ancient form—  
and took their several seats.

The Grand Marshall declared :

That in the name and by the authority of the Ancient constitutions of Masonry and the proceedings of a Convention convened pursuant to the same.

I proclaim the Grand Lodge by the name of THE MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND LODGE OF MANITOBA, ANCIENT FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS duly Constituted.

The M.W. Grand Master was pleased subsequently to notify the Grand Secretary of the following appointments, viz :—

V. W. Bro. G. McMicken, S.W., Winnipeg, Grand Senior Deacon.

V. W. Bro. W. J. Piton, S.W., Brookside, Grand Junior Deacon.

V. W. Bro. G. B. Spenser, Winnipeg, Grand Supt. of Works.

V. W. Bro. G. F. Newcomb, P.M., Winnipeg, Dir. of Ceremonies.

V. W. Bro. John J. Johnston, J.W., Winnipeg, Grand Sword Bearer.

V. W. Bro. Thos Sinclair, J.W., St. Andrews, Grand Organist.

V. W. Bro. James Mahoney, J.W., Winnipeg, Grand Pursuivant.

V. W. Bro. Hon. John Norquay, Provincial Secretary, St. Andrews, Grand Stewart.

V. W. Bro. Dr. D. Young, St. Andrews, Grand Stewart

V. W. Bro. James McLenaghan, Winnipeg, Grand Stewart.

V. W. Bro. Thos H. Parr, Winnipeg, Grand Steward.

The Grand Lodge then proceeded to ballot, and elected the following Brethren Members of the Board of General Purposes, viz :—

R. W. Bro. John Kennedy, W.M., Winnipeg.

M. W. Bro. Geo. Black P.M., Mapleton.

R. W. Bro. John H. Bell, W.M., Winnipeg.

The M.W. Grand Master was pleased to appoint the following Brethren as members of the Board of G.P., viz :

V. W. Bro. G. McMicken, S.W., Winnipeg.

V. W. Bro. J. Piton, S.W., Brookside.

Rt. W. Bro. J. D. O'Meara, S.W., St. John's College.

The M. W. Grand Master was pleased to name the following committees :

#### COMMITTEE ON CONSTITUTION.

R. W. Bro. Kennedy, D.G.M., R. W. Bro. Henderson, G.S.W., R. W. Bro. Bedson, G.J.W., and R. W. Bro. Bell, G. Secretary.

#### COMMITTEE ON RITUAL.

M. W. Bro. Black, P.G.M., R. W. Bro. Kennedy, D.G.M., R. W. Bro. Bell, G. Secretary, and V. W. Bro. Newcombe, G.D. of C.

#### COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

M. W. Bro. Clarke, G.M., R. W. Bro. Bell, Grand Secretary, and V. W. Bro. McMicken, G.S.D.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. W. N. Kennedy, seconded by M. W. Bro. Black, and

*Resolved:* That the Lodges in the province be numbered on the Grand Register according to their seniority, viz :—

Prince Rupert's Lodge, to be No. 1, R. Ma.			
Lisgar	"	" 2, "	"
Ancient Landmark "		" 3, "	"

R. W. Bro. John Kennedy, as W.M. of Prince Rupert's Lodge requested that they might be allowed to wear gold jewels instead of silver, that Lodge being the oldest.

The request was granted on motion of R. W. Bro. O'Meara, Grand Chaplain, seconded by M. W. Bro. Black, P.G.M.

It was moved by D. G. M. Kennedy, seconded by P. G. M. Black, and

*Resolved*, that a committee of three be appointed to assist the M. W. Grand Master in preparing the Address to Sister Grand Lodges and that R. W. Bro. Henderson, G.S.W., R. W. John Kennedy, Grand Treasurer, and R. W. Bro. O'Meara, Grand Chaplain, be that committee.

The M. W. Grand Master appointed R. W. Bro. W. N. Kennedy, R. W. Bros. Henderson and Bell, a committee to procure a Grand Lodge Seal.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. Henderson and seconded by R. W. Bro. O'Meara, and

*Resolved*, That the annual communication of Grand Lodge be held on the second Wednesday of June in each and every year, and that the next annual communication be held in Winnipeg, A. L. 5876.

Business of Grand Lodge being at an end, the M. W. Grand Master closed the Grand Lodge in ample form at 11 P.M.

JOHN H. BELL,  
Secretary.

W. C. CLARKE, G.M.